

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 28, 31, 33, 34, 39, 43, and 44 have been amended. New claims 55-71 have been added to the application. Claims 1-71 are now pending in the application. Each pending claim set is discussed below.

1. Claims 1-15, 36-38

Applicant notes that a Notice of Allowance was previously issued for this set of claims, and that no prior art or other rejection has been cited against these claims in the interim. Claim 1 has been amended to broaden the filter bead material to include ceramic. Claims 5, 12, 14, and 15 also have been amended for the purposes of form and clarity, and not for reasons related to patentability.

2. Claims 16-25

Applicant notes that a Notice of Allowance was previously issued for this set of claims, and that no prior art or other rejection has been cited against these claims in the interim. Claim 16 has been amended for the purposes of form and clarity, and not for reasons related to patentability.

3. Claims 26-32, 39-42, 55

Applicant notes that a Notice of Allowance was previously issued for claims 26-32 and 39-42, and that no prior art or other rejection has been cited against these claims in the interim. Claims 28, 31, and 39 have been amended for the purposes of form and clarity, and not for reasons related to patentability. New dependent claim 55 has been added.

4. Claims 33, 34, 47-54, 56-58

Applicant notes that a Notice of Allowance was previously issued for claims 33, 34, and 47-54, and that no prior art or other rejection has been cited against these claims in the interim. Claims 33, 34, and 39 have been amended for the purposes of form and clarity, and not for reasons related to patentability. New dependent claims 56-58 have been added.

5. Claim 35

Claim 35 has not been amended by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

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6. Claims 43-46, 59

Applicant notes that a Notice of Allowance was previously issued for claims 43-46, and that no prior art or other rejection has been cited against these claims in the interim. Claim 43 has been amended to broaden the claims filter media. Claim 44 has been amended for the purposes of form and clarity and, like claim 43, not for reasons related to patentability. New claim 59 has been added that depends from claim 43.

7. Claims 60-71

Claims 60-71 are new. Independent claim 60 recites a hood, and first and second filters mounted to the hood. The second filter includes two pairs of filtration chambers. Each pair defines a front end that receives the first-filtered air and a rear end that outputs twice-filtered air. Each pair of chambers includes a first and second substantially rectangular panel that converge in a direction from the front end towards the rear end and meet. Each panel includes inner and outer porous walls that contain a plurality of filtration members. Claims 61-71 depend from claim 60.

CONCLUSION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$392 fee (\$306 fee for 17 claims in excess of 20, and \$86 fee for 1 independent claim greater than 3), along with any other fees deemed necessary for this or any other communication, to Deposit Account No. 17-0055.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below if such will expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

KYLE A. BROWNELL, ET AL.



Adam J. Forman

Reg. No. 46,707

Attorney for Applicant

Quarles & Brady, LLP

411 East Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee WI 53202

(414) 277-5405

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